Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for speech enabling an application comprising the steps of:

specifying a speech input with a speech-enabled markup;

defining within said speech-enabled markup at least one operation of an application that is to be executed upon a detection of said specified speech input;

associating said speech-enabled markup with a graphical user interface element of said application;

after said defining and associating steps, instantiating said application;

~~detecting said specified speech input; and~~

monitoring to determine whether said graphical user interface element receives focus;

loading said speech-enabled markup into a markup interpreter and activating said speech-enabled markup if said graphical user interface element receives focus;

monitoring audible input to determine whether said specified speech input is received when said speech-enabled markup is activated;

executing said application operation ~~responsive to said detecting step~~ if said specified speech input is received when said speech-enabled markup is activated;

deactivating said speech-enabled markup so that said application no longer monitors audible input for said specified speech input if said graphical user interface element loses focus;

wherein said markup interpreter is embedded within an operating system on which

the application executes.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said application is a multimodal Web browser.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[3]] 1, further comprising the steps of:

rendering a Web page within said application, wherein said Web page includes speech-enabled markup for at least one element of said Web page, and wherein said speech-enabled markup interpreter speech-enables said Web page element.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said application is written in a Markup language.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said speech-enabled markup is written in a Voice Extensible Markup Language.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said application is written in an Extensible Hypertext Markup Language.

10. (Currently Amended) A speech-enabled application comprising:

a graphical user interface element configured to initiate at least one application operation responsive to a predefined graphical user interface event;

a speech-enabled markup associated with said graphical user interface element that specifies said application operation is to be performed responsive to a speech input; and

a markup interpreter configured to interpret said speech-enabled markup and initiate said application operation responsive to said speech input, wherein said markup interpreter is embedded within an operating system of a client computer in which said application is disposed.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The application of claim 10, wherein said speech-enabled application is a Web browser.

13. (Original) The application of claim 12, wherein said markup interpreter is configured to interpret speech-enabled markup contained within Web pages rendered by said Web browser.

14. (Original) The application of claim 10, wherein said application is written in a markup language.

15. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

specifying a speech input with a speech-enabled markup;

defining within said speech-enabled markup at least one operation of an application that is to be executed upon a detection of said specified speech input;

associating said speech-enabled markup with a graphical user interface element of said application;

after said defining and associating steps, instantiating said application;

~~detecting said specified speech input; and~~

monitoring to determine whether said graphical user interface element receives focus;

loading said speech-enabled markup into a markup interpreter and activating said speech-enabled markup if said graphical user interface element receives focus;

monitoring audible input to determine whether said specified speech input is received when said speech-enabled markup is activated;

executing said application operation ~~responsive to said detecting step~~ if said specified speech input is received when said speech-enabled markup is activated;

deactivating said speech-enabled markup so that said application no longer monitors audible input for said specified speech input if said graphical user interface element loses focus;

wherein said markup interpreter is embedded within an operating system on which the application executes.

16. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said application is a multimodal Web browser.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage of claim [[17]] 15, further

comprising the steps of:

rendering a Web page within said application, wherein said Web page includes speech-enabled markup for at least one element of said Web page, and wherein said speech-enabled markup interpreter speech-enables said Web page element.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said application is written in a Markup language.

22. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 15, wherein said speech-enabled markup is written in a Voice Extensible Markup Language.

23. (Original) The machine-readable storage of claim 22, wherein said application is written in an Extensible Hypertext Markup Language.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for speech enabling an application comprising:

means for specifying a speech input with a speech-enabled markup;

means for defining within said speech-enabled markup at least one operation of an application that is to be executed upon a detection of said specified speech input;

means for associating said speech-enabled markup with a graphical user interface element of said application;

means for instantiating said application after said defining and associating steps;

~~means for detecting said specified speech input; and~~

means for monitoring to determine whether said graphical user interface element receives focus;

means for loading said speech-enabled markup into a markup interpreter and activating said speech-enabled markup if said graphical user interface element receives focus;

means for monitoring audible input to determine whether said specified speech input is received when said speech-enabled markup is activated;

means for executing said application operation ~~responsive to said detecting step~~ if said specified speech input is received when said speech-enabled markup is activated;

means for deactivating said speech-enabled markup so that said application no longer monitors audible input for said specified speech input if said graphical user interface element loses focus;

wherein said markup interpreter is embedded within an operating system on which the application executes.